FHA INFO #13-66

Distribution Date: October 18, 2013

FHA Stakeholder Message from Charles Coulter

To Our FHA Stakeholders:

FHA has worked diligently during the 16-day government shutdown to support the housing market, consumers, and stakeholders. We are very pleased to be fully operational and wanted you to know that we will be working hard to bring business back to normal.

During the shutdown, FHA continued to facilitate loan endorsements and certain REO and servicing/loss mitigation activities with some limitations. The majority of FHA-insured mortgage loan products continued to be originated and could progress through the pipeline. And many REO and servicing loss mitigation activities were able to continue with minimal interruptions.

However, since we had a very limited number of staff working during the shutdown, we have a considerable backlog of work. Some of the backlog includes processing HECM endorsements, other cases that must be manually endorsed, condominium project approvals, incoming questions from lenders or borrowers, etc. We are prioritizing the backlog and will be working to address more critical items within 30 days and then to clear our backlog within 60 days. Please allow us time to respond to inquiries already submitted through the FHA Resource Center and the National Servicing Center as duplicate requests will only slow the process.

We appreciate your efforts to work in partnership with us during this demanding time. Together, we can quickly and effectively get back to the business of supporting the housing market. We appreciate your patience.

Sincerely,

Charles Coulter